

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 ERDA-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 PPT-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 SSO-00 PA-01

PRS-01 VO-03 /123 W

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P R 091440Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2580

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1143

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG

SUBJECT: OCCIDENTAL-LIBYA DISPUTE

1. OCCIDENTAL-LIBYA OFFICIALS (GORMELY AND PATTON WHO CURRENTLY IN CHARGE TRIPOLI OFFICE) OCTOBER 9 GAVE US FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON STATUS LARG TRAVEL PROHIBITION:

A) ONE AMCIT RECEIVED PERMISSION DEPART ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS AND WILL LEAVE TODAY (TRIPOLI 1130 AND 1133). (COMMENT: EMBASSY INTERVENED WITH FONMIN SENIOR OFFICIAL IN THIS AND ANOTHER HARSHIP CASE IN WHICH RELIEF IS EXPECTED.)

B) OXY LIBYA PRES ESPEY WAS PERMITTED TO DEPART FOR NEW YORK NEGOTIATIONS EVENING OCTOBER 8 AFTER HE DEPOSITED HIS WIFE'S PASSPORT WITH LIBYAN AUTHORITIES.

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C) COMPANY HAS WORKED OUT A ONE-FOR-ONE ROTATIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR ENTRY AND EXIT OF FIELD PERSONNEL. OXY EXPECTS THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENT WILL BE PUT INTO EFFECT NEXT WEEK.

D) IN RESPONSE EMBOFF QUESTION, GORMLEY AND PATTON SAID THAT IF LARG PERMITTED DEPARTURE OXY DEPENDENTS NOW, THERE WOULD BE NO MASS EXODUS, AND THAT OXY LIBYA HAS NO CURRENT PLANS FOR EVACUATION OF DEPENDENTS. ASKED ABOUT OXY HEADQUARTERS PRESS RELEASE ASSERTING THAT COMPANY IS SEEKING TO EVACUATE ALL ITS NON-LIBYAN PERSONNEL, COMPANY OFFICIALS HERE SAY SUCH AN EVACUATION IS NOT RPT NOT PRACTICAL AND WOULD BE RESISTED BY ITS EMPLOYEES DUE DISRUPTION SCHOOLING AND DIFFICULTY IN DISPOSING PERSONAL EFFECTS.

2. WITH REGARD NEW YORK NEGOTIATIONS, OXY OFFICIALS HERE TOLD US FOLLOWING:

A) LIBYAN NEGOTIATORS LEFT TRIPOLI OCTOBER 9 FOR NEW YORK.

B) NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO START OCTOBER 10, AND OXY OFFICIALS HERE EXPECT TALKS WILL BE CONCLUDED IN 3 TO 5 DAYS. THEY WOULD NOT EXPLAIN BASIS FOR MAKING THIS FORECAST.

C) LARGE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM HAS ALREADY MADE PLANS TO CONDUCT HIRING INTERVIEWS WITH OXY FIELD PERSONNEL STARTING SATURDAY. STEIN

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